

**REVENUE IMPACT OF
PROPOSED LEGISLATION**
Seventy-Sixth Oregon Legislative
Assembly
2011 Regular Session
Legislative Revenue Office

Bill Number: HB 3525 - A
Revenue Area: Penalties and Fees
Economist: Mazen Malik
Date: 6/17/2011

Measure Description:

Provides that 10 percent of amount awarded as punitive damages under verdict in civil action is payable to Attorney General for deposit in Courthouse Capital Improvement Trust Fund.

Revenue Impact (in \$Millions): The revenue is highly variable from one biennium to the next, but expected to average about \$2.75 to \$3 million a year over the extended period of time.

Impact Explanation:

As introduced, the measure creates the Courthouse Capital Improvement Trust Fund. It reduces the punitive damages award currently payable to the prevailing party from 40% to 30%. It makes ten percent of the punitive damages award payable to the Attorney General for deposit into the Courthouse Capital Improvement Trust Fund. The fund will be used for capital improvements to county courthouses. The receipts from punitive damages vary greatly from biennium to biennium. DOJ reports that the 60% deposited in the Criminal Injuries Compensation Account since the 1999-01 has varied from \$1.0 to \$11.4 million per biennium. These numbers reflect the amount collected and not necessarily the amount awarded. The same variance applies to the proposed 10% going to the new Courthouse Capital Improvement Trust Fund under this measure.

Creates, Extends, or Expands Tax Expenditure: Yes No